

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SECAC)**

**December 3, 2024**

**Meeting called to order at 5:16pm by Nori Burkhardt.**

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Nori Burkhardt (Chair), Gabriel Rose (Secretary), Anne Miller, Stacey Behrens, Kristen Mentges, Maureen Benczo (Treasurer), April Adams, Kelsey Famulare, A'knea Smith, Caitlin McKee

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes were read aloud from the September 2024 meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Nori Burkhardt and seconded by Anne Miller. Minutes from the September 2024 meeting were approved unanimously.

### **BUDGET REPORT**

"Maureen Benczo, Treasurer, presented the treasurer's report. Kristin Mentges provided additional information, clarifying the amounts of the budget categories can be adjusted from the original budget by as much as \$1,000, as long as they are in alignment with the overall goals of the grant."

### **REPORTS**

Kristin Mentges, Director of Special Education, reported that TCPS is in the beginning stages of the FY 2025-2026 budget process. If any members wish to discuss items that they feel should be included they can raise concerns at SECAC meetings or at School Board meetings.

Some focus on the proposed budget would be the continued practice and expanded inclusion of students with disabilities to general education classrooms.

Four (4) Instructional Assistants were added last year, and the goal is to include more if able in the coming year(s). Additional focus was made on the need of providing highly effective training for Instructional Assistants.

Stacey Behrens, Family Support & Resource Coordinator provided updates on upcoming events. The remaining 2024/2025 SECAC Meeting Dates are set for Feb 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025. A list of all upcoming events are posted on the TCPS Family Support & Resource Center webpage located at (<https://tcps.k12.md.us/teaching-learning/special-education/family-support-resource-center>).

### **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business

**SPECIAL EDUCATION CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SECAC)**

**December 3, 2024**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Gabriel Rose provided information on National Special Education Day which was recognized on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.

**CLOSING**

Next meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2024 at 6:00pm

SECAC meeting moved to close at 6:19pm

Respectfully submitted by: Gabriel Rose